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CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE LIBRARY

BY MARIAN COMINGS

(Prepared for the Anniversary Meeting, June 6, 1919)

Calls on the library for information come most often from the Museum staff, and our first aim in organization and purchasing has been to meet these demands adequately. Aside from Museum use, 1886 readers have consulted the library, which, with the exception of holidays, has been open daily and, during the lecture season, on Wednesday evenings and Sunday afternoons. Twenty-five classes in design have visited it for practical work and others have used the material for study.

BOOKS

We have 2754 volumes, over half of which are gifts. This year 170 books were bought for immediate needs of the staff and of art instructors. Needs of museum and of artist constantly overlap; we should have before long a book appropriation sufficient to enable this library to supply reference material for both.

ILLUSTRATIVE COLLECTIONS

The illustrative collections have been extended by the purchase of over 500 photographs, 800 lantern-slides and 1700 postcards, and by large gifts of private collections. The slides, though purchased largely for definite lecture work, have been borrowed by ten lecturers not connected with the Museum—a means of service which should be multiplied by the efforts we are making to round out the collection.

ORGANIZATION OF MATERIAL

Files of illustrations and of clippings about artists have been organized, exhibition catalogues have been indexed, lantern-slides have been classified and uniformly labeled, and some advance has been made in arranging the photograph collection. We have made for the Cleveland School of Art a duplicate set of cards indexing our books, and have combined with our own file the cards furnished by the Public Library indexing its art collection. A bibliography on Tapestry was issued in November.

EXHIBITIONS

As an accompaniment to the gallery exhibitions of tapestries, French eighteenth century furniture, and Chinese art, we have shown plates on the covered faces of our empty shelves. As our shelves are filled we must soon give up these interesting exhibitions, but a floor case for the display of important or valuable books has probably become a permanent feature.

DONATIONS AND LOANS

Thanks are due not only to the friends of the Museum who have

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given books, photographs and other material, but also to Mr. I. T. Frary for his library on architecture and design, and to Dr. Richard Bolt for his collection of Korean slides, each of whom has generously lent us his valuable collection during absence on war work.

REPORT OF THE EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

BY GERTRUDE UNDERHILL

(Prepared for the Anniversary Meeting, June 6, 1919)

The work of the Educational Department has been developing steadily and interestingly. The aim of the department, during the year just ended, has been to develop and round out its work along the lines already started, rather than to "go in" for new developments. The work divides itself into that with the adults, that with the schools, and extension work.

WORK WITH THE ADULTS

The regularity of the visits of adult students to the Museum, both in classes and as individuals, has been most encouraging. The Cleveland School of Art, because of the nature of its curriculum, has sent its students most frequently. Classes in design and interior decoration, as well as other subjects, have come each week for study and sketching from museum objects. The Normal School has been represented by groups of students who have come for consecutive talks on the collections of the Museum. Students from the colleges have also come, whenever their college work interested them in a special collection.

In accordance with the plan started last year, an afternoon course of lectures on "The Appreciation of Music and Art" was given on Wednesday afternoons at three o'clock for students of the Normal School and the Kindergarten Training School.

During the year, about fifty-four clubs have held meetings in the Museum, all of them having had discussions and talks on art topics. It is interesting to note that the programs on art, as in other fields during the past year, have put special emphasis on the work of the French. For the clubs desiring to come to the Museum for meetings a special room has been assigned. In addition to the clubs many others have come for talks, and among these latter, have been industrial workers and groups of foreigners with their Americanization instructors. The fact that a group comes to the Museum once is not of especial significance; but when such groups repeat their visits each year, as has been the case, it indicates a growing interest in the collections of the Museum.

WORK WITH SCHOOLS

The arrangements with the Board of Education, by which classes